



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

# NOTICE OF INITIATION

## Upper Turkey Creek Basin

### Johnson and Wyandotte Counties, Kansas

## RECONNAISSANCE STUDY#

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**JULY 2001**

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The Kansas City District Corps of Engineers is conducting a reconnaissance of potential flood damage reduction alternatives and related natural resource issues in the Upper Turkey Creek Basin of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas. The study area for this reconnaissance is upstream of the authorized flood damage reduction project. A resolution of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives adopted February 16, 2000, authorized this study of the upper basin. The study was requested by the City of Merriam, Kansas, the Merriam Drainage District, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, and Johnson County, Kansas.

Upper Turkey Creek  
Basin  
**Public Workshop**  
**July 25**  
Merriam City Hall

The study funded entirely by the Federal Government includes an expedited analysis as described in Section 905(b) of the 1986 Water Resources Development Act. The purpose of the analysis is to quickly determine whether the planning process should proceed into the more detailed feasibility phase based on Federal interest in implementing a solution. The analysis considers estimated costs, potential benefits, and possible environmental impacts of the preliminary alternatives. Any future Feasibility Study would be cost-shared on a 50-50 basis between the Federal Government and at least one non-Federal sponsor.

Turkey Creek has produced significant flood damages throughout the basin in 1961, 1977, 1993, and 1998. The flood of July 1993 caused one fatality and damages estimated at \$3.4 million in Merriam, Kansas, and \$20 million in the lower basin. The flood of October 1998 caused damages in Merriam, Kansas, estimated at \$12.0 million, and damages in the lower basin equivalent to those experienced in 1993. The primary

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***Please share this notice with anyone interested in the study.***

overflow points along Upper Turkey Creek in the 1998 flood were: vicinity of 75th street, downtown Merriam, I-35 at vicinity of Lamar Ave., and Roe Lane Industrial Park.

This study provides an opportunity to focus on comprehensive water and related land resource measures in the upper portion of the basin. Potential measures include: structural flood damage reduction measures, flood proofing measures, flood warning, detention, relocation, and zoning. Environmentally focused concepts could include wetland or habitat restoration, water quality improvements, and bioengineering to enhance the watershed environment along Turkey Creek and its tributaries. Several local agencies are focused on Turkey Creek Basin problems and are expressing interest in developing a basin-wide, multi-jurisdictional approach. Federal and State agencies have also expressed a desire to cooperate in this effort. We welcome your participation in the reconnaissance study.

**An initial public workshop on the scope of the reconnaissance study will be held Wednesday, July 25, 2001, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Merriam City Hall, 9000 W. 62nd Terrace, Merriam, Kansas**

If you have questions or wish to express your concerns about the study in writing, please address your correspondence to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Formulation Section (PM-PF) ATTN: Mike Wolfender 601 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street Kansas, City, MO 64106-2896
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